

Canadian Rockies Adventure

15 Night Self Drive Tour

Embark on a 15 night journey through Western Canada, blending vibrant cities, breathtaking landscapes, and outdoor adventures.

Begin in Vancouver, exploring highlights like Stanley Park and Granville Island. Travel the scenic Sea to Sky Highway to Whistler's alpine beauty, then venture to Clearwater, home to Wells Gray Provincial Park's majestic waterfalls.

Explore the Canadian Rockies, visiting Jasper and Banff National Parks along the iconic Icefields Parkway, with stops at Lake Louise and Moraine Lake. Conclude your adventure in the Okanagan Valley, renowned for its vineyards, before returning to Vancouver for an unforgettable farewell.

Highlights:

- Stroll through Vancouver's Stanley Park and Granville Island, or take a ferry to explore the breathtaking Butchart Gardens.
- Ride Whistler's Peak 2 Peak Gondola for unparalleled views of alpine peaks and lush valleys.
- Discover the majestic waterfalls and serene beauty of Wells Gray Provincial Park in Clearwater.
- Drive the stunning Icefields Parkway between Jasper and Banff, stopping at Lake Louise and Lake Moraine.
- Soak in the natural wonders of Banff National Park, from Sulphur Mountain to Johnston Canyon.
- Relax at Radium Hot Springs while driving through the stunning Kootenay National Park

What's included:

- Getting there: Return flights to Vancouver
- Transport: car hire inclusive of GPS
- Accommodation: 15 nights total duration (including 1 night on inbound flight) – 14 nights in hotels throughout Western Canada
- Meals: as per accommodation booked, most hotels will only offer room only or breakfast

Not included:

- Any meals (other than the one mentioned in the itinerary), drinks, tips, expenses of personal nature.
- Optional excursion/tours
- Travel insurance and eTA
- Anything not mentioned in the "What's Included" column

Full Itinerary

DAY 1 - UK TO VANCOUVER

Arrive in Vancouver, pick up your rental car at the airport, and check into your hotel. If time allows, enjoy a wander through the city. Explore Gastown's cobbled streets, or enjoy a leisurely dinner with stunning views of the harbour and mountains.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Best Western Premier Chateau Granville Hotel, Vancouver or similar



DAY 2 - VANCOUVER

Enjoy a day at leisure to discover Vancouver's highlights. Stroll through Stanley Park's towering trees, visit the bustling Granville Island Public Market, or explore the trendy districts of Kitsilano and Yaletown.

For a memorable adventure, consider joining an optional excursion to Victoria and the stunning Butchart Gardens. Take the ferry across the Strait of Georgia to Vancouver Island, where, if you're lucky, you might spot bald eagles or whales. Immerse yourself in the lush beauty of Butchart Gardens, a National Historic Site with 55 acres of stunning floral displays, before spending free time in Victoria's charming harbour city.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Best Western Premier Chateau Granville Hotel, Vancouver or similar

DAY 3 - VANCOUVER

Another day to explore Vancouver at your own pace.

You may wish to take an optional tour to Grouse Mountain and the iconic Capilano Suspension Bridge. Watch for salmon leaping at the Capilano River Hatchery, take in the views from the Grouse Mountain Skyride, and immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of the Pacific Northwest. Soar above Vancouver's skyline, the sparkling Pacific Ocean, and the surrounding mountains.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Best Western Premier Chateau Granville Hotel, Vancouver or similar



DAY 4 - VANCOUVER TO WHISTLER

Today, embark on your Western Canada road trip along the breathtaking Sea to Sky Highway. Stop at Shannon Falls to admire its cascading beauty, then enjoy panoramic views from the Sea to Sky Gondola in Squamish.

Arrive in Whistler, a year-round mountain resort offering world-class dining, cosy cafés, and stunning views. Explore the lively Whistler Village, or relax in one of its many restaurants.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Crystal Lodge Hotel, Whistler or similar DRIVING TIME: 1 hr 30 mins // 75 mi

DAY 5 - WHISTLER

Spend a day at leisure in Whistler, renowned for its outdoor beauty and activities. Stroll through Whistler Village, discovering unique boutiques and welcoming cafés. For a memorable experience, ride the Peak 2 Peak Gondola and enjoy spectacular views of alpine peaks and lush valleys.

Relax with lunch, then perhaps visit the Audain Art Museum, or embark on a tranquil hike at Lost Lake. Wind down with fine dining and soak in the vibrant village atmosphere.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Crystal Lodge Hotel, Whistler or similar



DAY 6 - WHISTLER TO CLEARWATER

Leave Whistler early, driving north through the rugged Coast Mountains. Stop for a coffee in Pemberton, enjoying views of farmland, and then continue towards Lillooet, the starting point of the Cariboo Gold Rush Trail. Pause to admire the Fraser River and its dramatic canyon.

The landscape shifts as you reach the Thompson Plateau, with opportunities to stretch your legs at scenic spots like Marble Canyon Provincial Park.

Arrive in Clearwater, the gateway to Wells Gray Provincial Park, known for its majestic waterfalls and unspoilt wilderness, perfect for exploring the next day.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* Best Western Plus Gateway to the Falls, Clearwater or similar DRIVING TIME: 5 hr 15 mins // 264 mi

DAY 7 - CLEARWATER

Enjoy a day at leisure in Clearwater, where you can immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Wells Gray Provincial Park, also known as the Waterfall Park. Start with a visit to Helmcken Falls, Canada's fourth-highest waterfall, and marvel at the cascade into the canyon below. For a gentler experience, hike the easy trail to Dawson Falls, often called a "mini-Niagara".

In the afternoon, enjoy a serene paddle on Clearwater Lake and finish the day with a picnic by Spahats Creek Falls, soaking in the peaceful surroundings and stunning canyon views.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* Best Western Plus Gateway to the Falls, Clearwater or similar



DAY 8 - CLEARWATER TO JASPER

After breakfast, head north to Jasper, passing Mount Robson, the tallest peak in the Rockies; it's a great spot to stop for photos. Take a brief break at Mount Robson Provincial Park for a short hike, then continue towards Tête Jaune Cache before entering Jasper National Park.

Upon arrival in Jasper, enjoy the charm of this mountain town, surrounded by rugged peaks, alpine meadows, and crystal-clear lakes.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* The Crimson Jasper or similar DRIVING TIME: 3 hr 15 mins // 197 mi

DAY 9 - JASPER NATIONAL PARK

Start your day with a peaceful stroll along Maligne Lake, where you can join a boat tour to Spirit Island, one of the most photographed spots in Canada. If you're feeling active, the Maligne Canyon Trail offers an easy hike through dramatic gorges and waterfalls.

In the afternoon, take a ride on the Jasper SkyTram for panoramic views, and then unwind at Pyramid Lake. End the day by watching the sunset over the mountains, followed by dinner in Jasper's cosy town, offering everything from casual bites to more upscale dining.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* The Crimson Jasper or similar



DAY 10 - JASPER TO BANFF (VIA LAKE LOUISE)

Start early for a scenic drive along the world-famous Icefields Parkway, one of the most stunning drives in the world. Stop at Athabasca Falls and Sunwapta Falls, or continue south to the Columbia Icefield for impressive glacier views.

At Lake Louise, enjoy lunch by its iconic turquoise waters, perhaps taking a canoe ride or a short hike. Next, visit Moraine Lake, famous for its breathtaking views, before heading south to Banff. Stop briefly at Bow Falls before checking into your hotel.

In the evening, explore the lively streets of Banff or relax at the Banff Upper Hot Springs, offering beautiful mountain views.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* Mount Royal Hotel Banff or similar DRIVING TIME: 3 hr 20 mins // 179 mi

DAY 11 - BANFF NATIONAL PARK

Spend a relaxing day exploring Banff National Park. Start with a leisurely breakfast at a local café, then take a stroll along Banff Avenue to browse shops, art galleries, and boutiques. Visit the Banff Park Museum or the Whyte Museum to learn about the area's history and wildlife. For stunning views, take the Banff Gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain or hike up if you're feeling adventurous. Afterward, unwind at the Banff Upper Hot Springs, soaking in the warm waters with views of the surrounding mountains.

In the afternoon, enjoy a scenic drive to Lake Minnewanka, or hike to Johnston Canyon to see its beautiful waterfalls. For dinner, savour local cuisine at one of Banff's cosy restaurants, and end the evening with a relaxing walk around the picturesque town.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* Mount Royal Hotel Banff or similar





DAY 12 - BANFF TO REVELSTOKE

Depart from Banff early and drive west towards Revelstoke. Enjoy the views as you pass through Kootenay National Park, famous for its rugged mountains and lush forests.

Stop at Radium Hot Springs for a relaxing break, soaking in the hot springs with mountain views. Continue through Kootenay Valley, passing Golden and Columbia Valley. If time allows, take a detour to Glacier National Park for a short hike or visit the Roger's Pass Discovery Centre.

Arrive in Revelstoke, nestled in the Selkirk Mountains, in the late afternoon. Explore the town's charming shops or visit the Revelstoke Railway Museum. End the day with a delicious dinner before relaxing for the night.

ACCOMMODATION: 3* Regent Hotel, Revelstoke or similar DRIVING TIME: 3 hr 10 mins // 176 mi

DAY 13 - REVELSTOKE TO PENTICTON

Start your day with breakfast before beginning your drive towards Penticton through the stunning Okanagan Valley, renowned for its vineyards and orchards. As you descend into the valley, stop at Mara Lake for a break and enjoy the scenic views.

Continue toward Salmon Arm, where you can explore the charming town or nearby Shuswap Lake.As you approach the Okanagan Valley, take in the changing landscapes, transitioning from mountain vistas to fertile farmland.

Upon arrival in Penticton, situated between Okanagan Lake and Skaha Lake, take a stroll along the Penticton River Channel, or relax at one of the area's renowned wineries. End the day with dinner overlooking the lakes or in the town's vibrant downtown.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Penticton Lakeside Resort or similar DRIVING TIME: 3 hr 30 mins // 161 mi



DAY 14 - PENTICTON TO VANCOUVER

On your journey back to Vancouver from Penticton, enjoy a scenic drive through the Okanagan Valley, stopping for photos and a break in Kelowna or Merritt along the way.

Arrive in Vancouver by the afternoon and enjoy a relaxed evening. Perhaps enjoy a final dinner with stunning views before preparing for your flight home to the UK the following day.

ACCOMMODATION: 4* Best Western Premier Chateau Granville Hotel, Vancouver or similar DRIVING TIME: 4 hr 30 mins // 260 mi

DAY 15 - DEPARTING VANCOUVER

Enjoy your last morning in Vancouver before driving back to the airport to drop your rental car off and check in for your flight back to the UK.

DAY 16 - ARRIVAL IN THE UK

Your overnight flight arrives back in the UK for you to make your journey home.

FAQs

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

The best time to visit Vancouver and the Rocky Mountains is from June to September, when the weather is warm, the alpine lakes are at their most vibrant, and hiking trails are fully accessible. For fewer crowds and stunning autumn colours, September is ideal, while winter (November to March) is perfect for skiing and enjoying snowy landscapes.

CAR HIRE

Please note to rent a car the lead driver must have a credit card in their name. Debit cards are only accepted in some cases. Please ensure a GPS is included in the car rental, as well as multiple drivers and a free tank of petrol should you wish to benefit from this. There may be an excess applicable for car rentals in Canada, which will be advised at the time of booking. You may wish to include rental car excess cover in your travel insurance policy, or ask one of our team if there is an additional policy that can be added to your holiday.

MAPS

Your car hire will have a GPS included so you can find your way; physical driving instructions are not included, to give you the flexibility to stop and change route at any time.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTE

You may also wish to travel Western Canada as a one-way journey from Vancouver to Calgary. Keep in mind there may be a one-way rental fee charged which can be advised at the time of booking.

VISA

British passport holders require an eTA to enter Canada by air. Please visit the FCDO website for more information.

NATIONAL PARKS

Most National Parks and historic sites in Canada charge a mandatory fee. Please visit Parks Canada for more information.

